ground water pollution, especially in Punjab;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what precautionary measures are being taken by Government to save ground water from such pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R ANSARI) : (a) and (b) A news item was published in the 'Hindu' (New Delhi edition) of 25th October, 1987 saying that nitrate-nitrogen levels in groundwater in some areas of Punjab have exceeded the limits prescribed by World Health Organisation (WHO) for drinking water due to excessive use of chemical fertilisers.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Jute Mills

1032 DR R K PODDAR :
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of the jute mills which have accepted the modernisation package announced by the Prime Minister in September, 1986;

(b) how much amount has so far been released for that purpose; and

(c) what is the level of modernisation achieved in those mills, mill-wise details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S KRISHNA KUMAR) (a) 23 jute mills have so far applied to all-India Financial Institutions for financial assistance under Jute Modernisation Fund for a total assistance of Rs. 102.13 crores, of which one application for Rs. 7.56 crores has since been withdrawn Out of the remaining 22 applications, the Financial Institutions have already cleared 3 applications involving sanction of total assistance of Rs. 9.06 crores.

(b) No disbursement has been made by the Financial Institutions so far.

(c) Does not arise.

Deaths in Tihar Jail due to Drug Related Causes

1033 SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is fact that in July and August, 1987, there were as many as seven deaths among the prisoners at Tihar Jail, New Delhi, due to drug-related causes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that drug de-addiction programmes being earlier conducted in Tihar Jail have now been discontinued; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being contemplated by the authorities to control the drug menace among the prisoners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) (a) Seven persons died in July and August, 1987 The causes of their death is not known at present.

(b) The de-addiction programme run by voluntary organisations has been discontinued because of non-availability of space, over-crowding and security reasons.

(c) The drug-addicted prisoners are being treated in the Jail Hospital as well as hospitals outside. The Delhi Administration have taken the following steps .—

(i) A strict vigil through searches of visitors as well as the prisoners has been mounted to prevent them from passing the drugs and the unauthorised articles to the prisoners.

(ii) All known addicts are kept under strict surveillance.

(iii) Educational programmes have been strated to educate the prisoners about the consequences of drug-addiction.